

**BELIZE'S NOMINEE
FOR THE POST OF
SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE
CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
2021-2026**

Carla Natalie Barnett PhD CBE


Dr. Barnett: Vision for CARICOM and the Secretariat

- **When I joined CARICOM the first time, I was relatively young, with a young family. Now with the benefit of years of additional executive and political experience I offer myself as your first female Secretary General to provide the leadership that is required in these changing times.**
- **I see a CARICOM that the ordinary woman and man will defend because they know what CARICOM stands for and feel the impact in their daily lives through economic and social advancement.**
- **This is a Community where citizens will take pride in Regional achievements as well as the accomplishments of individual Member States and their citizens.**
- **It is a Community that is not afraid to re-strategize when so required, especially at this time when the needs are so great, but the resources are so scarce.**
- **The pandemic is forcing us to recalibrate and set new priorities for regional development. “Do more with less” has new meaning for all of us. This does not mean less effective work.**
- **It is an opportunity for CARICOM citizens to be involved in the strengthening of the Regional integration.**



“Truly we are caught in the cross hairs of two grave crises with hardly more than our own limited natural resources and our determination to survive to bolster our position. ... Small Island Developing States are therefore facing difficult choices. For us, it is food and healthcare vs everything else.”

From Statement by Dr Barnett to the UK-FCDO Virtual Roundtable on Small Island Developing States Access to Finance – Identifying Solutions for Resilient COVID19 Recovery, 20-21 October 2020



“ I challenge you all to step in our shoes, as uncomfortable as they are, and look at each of the policy options you have placed before us. Examine, when applied to Small Island Developing States, like Belize and the rest of the Caribbean in particular that are facing the twinned crises of a pandemic and climate change, how these will expand our access to finance. Tell us how these will assist us to avoid being strangled by already high debt – which has to be compounding as we borrow to meet the added costs of meeting healthcare needs and minimal social safety nets for the unemployed and vulnerable. Demonstrate how these policy options will improve our capacity to stay on track to achieve our sustainable development goals and our ambitious climate targets by keeping our economies and our people alive. ”

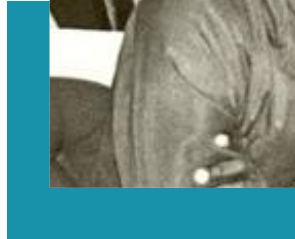
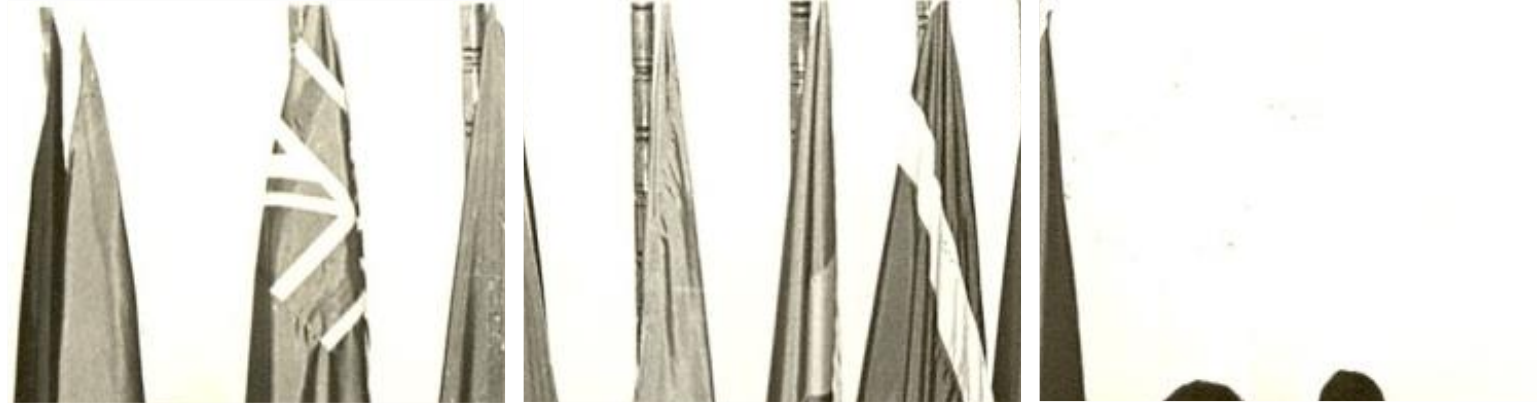
From Statement by Dr Barnett to the Meeting of the Ministers of Finance, 8 September 2020: "Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond" Convened by Jamaica and Canada in collaboration with the UN Secretary-General



Education Background & Notable Awards

Dr Barnett is an economist with many years of executive, professional and consulting experience in Belize and in the wider English-speaking Caribbean.

- Ph.D. at the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences, which pre-dated the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies of the University of the West Indies, in 1986-89
- MA in Economics at Western University as a Canadian Commonwealth Scholar in 1984-85
- BSc in Economics (Honours) at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica in 1980
- 2011: UWI Alumna Achievement Award by UWI Belize Alumnae Association for Excellence in Economics and Development
- 2007: Alumnae Achievement Award by St John's College
- 2005: Insignia of the Commander of the British Empire (CBE) for distinguished public service



Breaking Barriers

1989

Joined the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) as a Country Economist assigned to Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda and the Cayman Islands.

1992 -96

First woman to be appointed as Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Belize

1997-02

First woman, and youngest person to be appointed as Deputy Secretary-General of CARICOM

2004-07

First woman to be appointed to the position of Financial Secretary in Belize with lead responsibility for fiscal policy formulation, expenditure management and preparation of the annual budget estimates and public debt management and led the team that undertook Belize's first successful debt restructuring.

2012-14

Returned to the CDB as Vice-President (Operations)

2015

Appointed to the Senate as Vice-President, and as a Minister of State with specific responsibility for Natural Resources and later appointed as Minister of State for Labor, Local Government and Rural Development.

Additional Areas of Expertise

CARICOM-related Consultancies

- Undertook an institutional needs analysis and provided recommendations for the start-up requirements of the CARICOM Development Fund, 2008.

Membership of CARICOM Teams/Working Groups

- Member of the CARICOM Regional Central Bank Team that undertook the original preparatory study which led to the 3-12-36-15 recommended criteria for Economic Convergence in CARICOM, 1992-1994.
- Member of the Working Group established by CARICOM Heads of Government and headed by Sir Allister McIntyre to study and report on “Financing for Caribbean Development”, 1994 -1996.
- Member of the Regional Advisory Council to the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, 2003 - 2006.
- Member of the CARICOM Economic Team developing a regional approach to engage with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) on the Caribbean Economic Recovery and Transformation (CERT) programme initiated by the Prime Minister of Barbados, 2020.

Key Achievements at the CARICOM Secretariat

Deputy Secretary-General 1997-2002

- Broadened the Secretariat's strategic planning to include its "external" as well as internal "customers" so as to sharpen the focus of the Secretariat's Work Programme, strengthen resource mobilization through the creation of new mechanisms for consultation with cooperation partners, and make greater/more effective use of information technology and web-based tools for communication
- Promoted the IT integration through the project to "Strengthen the Information Technology Infrastructure and Competence of the CARICOM Secretariat", which was approved by CIDA in 1998, and which provided over 100 state of the art personal computers and significant staff training, and led to the building of Secretariat's LAN/WAN network and launching of its first website.



“If ever there was a time for a truly global approach, one that calls for meaningful multilateralism built on an understanding and acceptance of an inter-dependent world, it is now.”

Dr Barnett at the 38th Session of ECLAC, 26-28 October 2020